

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. However, airing such a biased documentary with many unsupportable claims and calling it "a news event" strikes me as an illegal in-kind contribution to the Bush campaign. (I would be equally outraged if they were showing a documentary about the President that was unsupported by facts. I am not a Democrat or a Republican, but an independent.)

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. The FCC needs to act in a manner that regains the public's trust. Thank you.